

SECRET/SENSITIVE

6 April 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT : MACV Strength Figures

1. Attached is a briefing note which MACV prepared (on 21 March) for Mr. Polgar. It contains the force figures which he used in his 5 April conversation with the Director. As you will see, these force figures -- at a minimum -- do not track with the figures we have been using both to brief the Director and in our external publications.

2. I am not entirely certain where the discrepancy lies. Presumably our 154,000 figure is the analogue to MACV's 100,700 maneuver figure plus its 26,800 combat support figure. If so, we have a difference of about 27,000. Some of our 154,000 total, however, may be buried in MACV's admin service/guerrilla category (89,300), since there is a footnote to the force table in your logistic weekly which indicates that our "combat" total includes some local force platoons.

3. Would you please take a careful look at this MACV document, particularly its OB figures, and let me know the extent to which our holdings (which are presumably also DIA's holdings) genuinely differ from MACV's. I would also like to try to illustrate the particular areas of this disagreement. We will need to explain this discrepancy to the Director and where we do disagree with MACV will also need to explain why we think our data is right and theirs is wrong.

[REDACTED]

George A. Carver, Jr.

Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

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Attachment

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Copy No. 2

Copy No. 3

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